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**“Join the Continental Army,” at
Independence Visitor Center
January 25, 2008; 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.**

PHILADELPHIA – (January 11, 2008) On January 25, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. the Independence Visitor Center, located at 6th and Market Streets, will host “Cabin Fever: Valley Forge Encampment”. The Independence Visitor Center Corporation (IVCC) is working in conjunction with Valley Forge National Historical Park and the Valley Forge Convention and Visitors Bureau to present this free educational program.

“Independence Visitors Center Corporation is on the cutting edge of regional promotion. We appreciate the opportunity to bring this interactive program on the road and showcase it to visitors in Philadelphia. We hope it will entice visitors to come to Valley Forge National Historical Park and the Valley Forge region.” said Mike Caldwell, Valley Forge National Historical Park Superintendent.

The educational event which promotes *Join the Continental Army*, a free program happening this winter at Valley Forge National Historical Park is designed for children ages 6 to 12, and will be administered by National Park Service rangers. The Rangers will show children the techniques and maneuvers used by Continental Army soldiers. “Recruits” will receive enlistment papers, copies of Continental currency, and a wooden dummy musket to practice with.

The instruction mimics the training that George Washington’s soldiers received at Valley Forge during the American Revolution. The children will practice how to carry and load a Colonial musket. They will learn how to properly stand and march like a soldier. By the end of the session they will understand what it was like to be a trained soldier in the Continental Army.

The free programs run at Valley Forge National Historical Park on February 2, February 18 and March 1, and start at 11 am in the Park's Welcome Center. They are designed to get young children interested in the American Revolution and to visit the Park. The training at the Visitor Center will mirror what is done at Valley Forge, and children are encouraged to continue attending lessons at Valley Forge.

Participants will meet at the Visitor Center, at 6th and Market Streets in Philadelphia. All activities will take place indoors. Participants are advised to wear comfortable clothes and sturdy shoes.

About Independence Visitor Center Corporation

The Independence Visitor Center, located at 6th & Market Streets, across from the Liberty Bell, provides the region's best event and attraction information to visitors and locals alike about Independence National Historical Park, the City of Philadelphia and the countryside. Open daily at 8:30 a.m. seven days a week (with the exception of Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day). For information, visit www.independencevisitorcenter.com or call 215.965.7676.

About Valley Forge National Historical Park

Valley Forge National Historical Park educates present and future generations of Americans about one of the most defining events in our nation's history by preserving the natural and cultural resources that commemorate the encampment of the Continental Army at Valley Forge in 1777-78. To learn more visit www.nps.gov/vafo.

About Valley Forge Convention and Visitors Bureau

The Valley Forge Convention and Visitors Bureau, Ltd. is a nonprofit, membership-based sales and marketing organization that aggressively promotes the Valley Forge area and Montgomery County as a convention site and leisure visitor destination by encouraging patronage of its 500-plus member hotels, restaurants, attractions, and services. The Bureau's web site, www.valleyforge.org, serves visitors, residents, meeting planners and tour operators.

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